(a) the number of applications made by muslim divorcees for maintenance and/or provision undar the Muslim Women (Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986, Year-wise and state-wise;

(b) the number of cases for which the payment of maintenance/provision was ordered against the former husband, against blood relations or against State Wakf Board, separately;

(c) whether the constitutionality of the Act has been challenged before the Supreme Court and if so, the present status of the case;

(d) whether the All-india Muslim Personal Law Board has suggested some amendments to the Act; and

(e) if so, the present status of the proposed amendment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS: (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGLAM): (a) and (b). The information is not readily available. The same will be collected from the State Governments/ Union territory administrations and will be laid on tha Table of the House.

(c) to (e). A number of petitions challenging the provisions of the Muslim Women (protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986 have been filed in the Supreme Court and these are pending before the constitutional bench for hearing. The All India Muslim Personal Law Board have suggested some amendments to the Act. Since the matter is sub-judice no action has been taken on the suggestions.

[*Translation*]

Accident of MIG 23 Aircraft near Mohangarh

1444. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a MIG 23 aircraft of Indian Air Force met with an accident near Mahangarh while doing exercise;

(b) if so, whether an enquiry has been conducted into the causes of the accident;

(c) whether the aircraft was not thoroughly checked before sending it for exercise;

(d) whether such accidents have taken place in the past also; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. There was an accident involving a MIG 23 aircraft near Mohangarh on 21 Oct 91, during an exercise.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The aircraft was thoroughly checked and certified serviceable before the exercise.

(d) and (e). An accident involving a MIG 23 aircraft in a similar exercise had taken place in March 1983. It was caused on account of technical failure.

[*English*]

Air Strips for Gliding Training of N.C.C. Cadets in Madhya Pradesh

1445.SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state: